

As communities continue to deal with last weekend's snow, another storm is predicted

New Jersey - Today, Congressman John Adler and a bipartisan group of 29 mayors called on Governor Chris Christie to declare a state of emergency for Burlington, Camden, and Ocean Counties. Joined by mayors from all three counties, the lawmakers said local communities are still cleaning up the snow from last week's storm, and could be facing another blizzard tonight. An emergency declaration would provide the three counties with additional resources to assist in clearing the roadways and helping communities recover from costly damages.

"Our towns need support from the state and the federal government," Congressman Adler and local mayors said. "These storms have placed an enormous financial strain on our communities as hard-working men and women clean up the snow and keep our families safe. We urge Governor Christie to take swift action and lift the burden from local taxpayers."

An emergency declaration by the Governor frees up state resources and allows the state to request federal assistance. The entire text of the letter to Governor Christie is below.

February 9, 2010

Governor Chris Christie
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Christie,

As you know, a powerful winter storm hit the southern region and coastal communities of New Jersey on Friday, February 5 and Saturday, February 6, 2010. Up to two feet of snow accumulated throughout the state, with parts of Burlington and Ocean counties being the hardest hit.

We urge you to declare a state of emergency for the damage that last weekend's storm brought to Burlington, Camden, and Ocean Counties. Additionally, New Jersey residents are bracing themselves once again for another Nor'easter, which is expected to bring at least another foot of snow to the Garden State tonight and tomorrow.

We also urge you to declare a state of emergency for the snow storm that is expected to hit the region today and tomorrow. An emergency declaration will provide our local communities with additional supplies and manpower to assist in clearing the roadways and helping communities recover from costly damages. Our local communities may need emergency assistance to help families and small businesses safely handle the dangerous winter conditions. If a disaster is not declared, then federal assistance is not possible, and taxpayers and local municipalities will have to bear the brunt of the financial burden of this storm.

Again, we urge you to declare a state of emergency in Burlington, Camden and Ocean Counties, so that our local officials have the resources they need to recover from these storms.

Sincerely,

Congressman John Adler
Mayor Thomas F. Kelaher, Toms River
Mayor Randy Brown, Evesham
Mayor Jeff Melchiondo, Barnegat
Mayor Bernie Platt, Cherry Hill
Mayor Thomas Connors, Seaside Park
Mayor Jason J. Varano, Berkeley
Mayor Walter G. LaCicero, Lavallette
Mayor Joseph Lachawiec, Ocean
Mayor Chris Boyle, Pine Beach
Mayor Michael Keene, South Toms River
Mayor Paul J. Kennedy, Ocean Gate
Mayor John McMenamin, Stafford
Mayor William Huelsenbeck, Ship Bottom
Mayor Len Connors, Surf City
Mayor Michael Battista, Beach Haven
Mayor Ronald W. Jones, Jr., Beachwood
Mayor Kirk O. Larson, Barnegat Light
Mayor James Biggs, Island Heights
Mayor Gary Quinn, Lacey

Mayor Lee Eggert, Tuckerton
Mayor Ken Paris, Delran
Mayor Kevin Johnson, Edgewater Park
Mayor Sid Camp, Westampton
Mayor Dan Roccato, Moorestown
Mayor Bill Boettcher, III, Hainesport
Mayor Eddie Campbell, Jr., Willingboro
Deputy Mayor Louise Campbell, Eastampton
Mayor Gail Cook, Beverly City
Mayor Jim Young, Southampton